



# ISCO NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the International Spill Response Community

Issue 429 7 April 2014

[info@spillcontrol.org](mailto:info@spillcontrol.org) <http://www.spillcontrol.org>

## ISCO & THE ISCO NEWSLETTER

The ISCO Newsletter is published weekly by the International Spill Control Organisation, a not-for-profit organisation supported by members in 45 countries. ISCO has Consultative Status at IMO, Observer Status at IOPC Funds and is dedicated to raising worldwide preparedness and co-operation in response to oil and chemical spills, promoting technical development and professional competency, and to providing a focus for making the knowledge and experience of spill control professionals available to IMO, UNEP, EC and other organisations.

## ISCO COMMITTEE & COUNCIL

ISCO is managed by an elected executive committee members of which are **Mr David Usher** (President, USA), **Mr John McMurtrie** (Secretary, UK), **Mr Marc Shaye** (USA), **Mr Dan Sheehan** (USA), **M. Jean Claude Sainlos** (France), **Mr Kerem Kemerli** (Turkey), **Mr Paul Pisani** (Malta), **Mr Simon Rickaby** (UK), **Mr Li Guobin** (China), **Captain Bill Boyle** (UK) and **Mr Dennis van der Veem** (Co-opted Member, The Netherlands)

The Register of ISCO Members is maintained by **Ms Mary Ann Dagleish** (Membership Director) and the list of members is on the website at <http://www.spillcontrol.org>

The Executive Committee is assisted by the non-executive ISCO Council composed of the following national representatives – **Mr John Wardrop** (Australia), **Mr Namig Gandilov** (Azerbaijan), **Mr John Cantlie** (Brazil), **Dr Merv Fingas** (Canada), **Captain Davy T. S. Lau** (China, Hong Kong), **Mr Li Guobin** (China, Mainland), **Mr Darko Domovic** (Croatia), **Eng. Ashraf Sabet** (Egypt), **Mr Torbjorn Hedrenius** (Estonia), **Mr Pauli Einarsson** (Faroe Islands), **Prof. Harilaous Psarafitis** (Greece), **Captain D. C. Sekhar** (India), **Mr Dan Arbel** (Israel), **Mr Sanjay Gandhi** (Kenya), **Mr Joe Braun** (Luxembourg), **Chief Kola Agboke** (Nigeria), **Mr Jan Allers** (Norway), **Capt. Chris Richards** (Singapore), **Mr Anton Moldan** (South Africa), **Dr Ali Saeed Al Ameri** (UAE), **Mr Kevin Miller** (UK) and **Dr Manik Sardessai** (USA).

For more info on Executive Committee and Council Members go to [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

## FIND THE HELP YOU NEED

Click on these links to view websites

[CONSULTANTS](#)

[EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS](#)

[RESPONSE ORGANISATIONS](#)

[TRAINING PROVIDERS](#)

For more information on the events featured below, click on the banners

REGISTER NOW FOR IOISC 2014!  
International Oil Spill Conference  
Savannah, Georgia | May 5-8 | [www.ioisc.org](http://www.ioisc.org)

ISAA  
Oil Spill Training Days  
Castle Archdale, 28-29 April 2014

Premium  
Premium Conference : June 4th. Book Now

## International news

### US CONTRIBUTION TO FUNDING FOR ARCTIC OIL SPILL RESPONSE RESEARCH

April 3 - The US Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) has announced that it is investing up to \$600,000 for targeted oil spill response research in Arctic ice.

The announcement follows a call from the Bureau for white papers on new mechanical technologies for cleaning up oil spills in drifting ice conditions that could be found in an Arctic environment.

BSEE says it will select up to three designs for prototype development and testing at Ohmsett, the bureau's National Oil Spill Research and Renewable Energy Test Facility. [gCaptain](#) [Read more](#)

### WINNER OF 3RD ITOPF R&D AWARD ANNOUNCED

April 2 - The International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation (ITOPF) has announced that the beneficiary of the 3rd annual ITOPF R&D Award is the Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) in the UK. The project is called 'Factors Affecting Marine Emergency and Response Research' (FAMERR).

The aim of the project is to determine realistic spill profiles for two chemicals, aniline and butyl acrylate, so as to improve decision-making for spills in different geographic areas and seasons. These chemicals have been chosen because they are transported in significant volume and have hazardous properties that could vary in different environmental conditions. The chemicals are also included as they build on prior work carried out as part of a larger, EU financed project called ARCOPLUS and will strongly link to a complementary project called MERR (Marine Emergency Response Research) being funded by the UK

## BECOME A MEMBER OF ISCO

Enjoy all the benefits of membership of this worldwide organization and support the continuing publication of the ISCO Newsletter [Application Form](#)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Advance your career by gaining Professional Recognition

Professional recognition is a visible mark of quality, competence and commitment, and can give you a significant advantage in today's competitive environment.

All who have the relevant qualifications and the required level of experience can apply for Professional Membership of ISCO. The organization offers independent validation and integrity. Each grade of membership reflects an individual's professional training, experience and qualifications.

You can apply for Student Membership, Associate Membership (AMISCO), Membership (MISCO) or Fellowship (FISCO).

[All about Professional Membership](#)

[Application Form](#)

## To receive the ISCO Newsletter

Go to <http://www.spillcontrol.org> and enter your name and email address in the Registration Form (located on the top right hand side of the home page) then click on "SUBSCRIBE"

## International news (continued)

government (Defra). The project is being undertaken by a UK scientific organisation working in partnership with the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Kuwait University in order to gain a better understanding of the way in which salinity and temperature in UK waters

Dave Sheahan, Senior Chemical Risk Assessor (Cefas) commented, "This is a great opportunity for Cefas to work more closely with ITOPF. When marine spills occur they affect many stakeholders so the opportunity to link industry research funds with those of national and overseas governments towards a common goal is very welcome." ITOPF [More info](#)

## Incident reports

### USA: TEXAS CITY "Y" INCIDENT: AFTERMATH OF THE OIL SPILL IN GALVESTON BAY, TEXAS

April 3 - The March 22, 2014 vessel collision in Galveston Bay (see [Kirby Barge Oil Spill, Houston/Texas City Ship Channel](#)) resulted in an oil spill of approximately 168,000 gallons.

Although scattered and trace amounts of oil were found as far west as Mustang and Padre Islands, almost all of the oil is still thought to be stranded on shorelines between Galveston and Matagorda. Some widely scattered floating tarballs and sheens may be possible, but no floating oil was observed on overflights today.

As of Monday, March 31, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service teams report 21 dolphins and 4 turtles stranded. Most of these are in the Galveston area but reports from Matagorda Island are increasing. All of the dolphins were dead, two turtles were captured alive and are being rehabilitated. Most of the animals were not visibly oiled but necropsies are still underway. Approximately 150 dead birds have been reported in the Galveston area and 30 in the Matagorda area.

Cleanup activities in the Galveston area are proceeding and the U.S. Coast Guard is beginning the process to downsize staffing and phase out response efforts. NOAA [Read more](#)

## Incident reports (continued)

### CANADA: ALBERTA ENERGY REGULATOR INVESTIGATES CNRL SPILL NEAR SLAVE LAKE

April 2 - A Canadian Natural Resources Limited pipeline spilled 70,000 litres of oil and processed water Monday northwest of Slave Lake.

The Alberta Energy Regulator said the pipeline breach was reported by CNRL the same day. The spill happened on leased land and is not an emergency, the regulator said. The oil is not near people, water or wildlife, and a cleanup is underway. Low amounts of hydrogen sulphide gas were also detected in the spill. *Edmonton Journal* [Read more](#)

### USA: INVESTIGATION INTO ESCALANTE OIL SPILLS CONTINUES



*Photo: Holland, along with Joe Harris of the Forest Service, Mark Bing, central regional manager of Citation Oil and Gas Corp., Terry Tolbert, wildlife biologist, and Julie Sueker of Arcadis Environmental Consulting Group, hiked the 4-mile stretch of the wash where the oil was discovered.*

April 4 - Remnants from at least one large oil spill found by hikers on March 23 in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument has officials wondering how and when the damage occurred.

As many as 4 miles in the Little Valley Wash now contain the aftermath of the spill, with about 1.5 miles of 6-inch thick oil flows contained in the mostly dry stream bed. *Deseret News* [Read more](#)

## Incident reports (continued)

### PHILIPPINES: OIL SPILL HITS CALACA SHORELINE

April 5 - An oil spill which affected the shorelines of Barangay Baclutan and Barangay Salong in Calaca town has been contained as of Friday, according to officials of the Coast Guard.

Seaman 1st Class Michael Sangangbayan of the Marine Environmental Protection Command of the Coast Guard Southern Tagalog Station said a group of fishermen sought the help of authorities after an oil spill affected some 1 to 2 kilometers of the barangays' shoreline on Wednesday. *ABS CBN News* [Read more](#)

## Other news reports from around the world

### NEWS REPORTS FROM USA

#### March 29 - Galveston Bay Oil Spill: Texas City "Y" Response Unified Command

Oil spill responders from the Matagorda Incident Command Post in Port O'Connor, Texas, continued to implement their aggressive plans, Saturday, March 29, 2014 to protect environmentally sensitive Matagorda Bay against impact from a portion of the oil spilled in the ship-barge collision near Texas City, and to anticipate potential impacts further south on the Texas coast.

The Unified Command has deployed equipment on the sandy beaches of south Matagorda Island to begin cleanup operations. Task force teams will manually cleanup oil with rakes, shovels and buckets on the 24 miles of beach line from the Matagorda Island State Park. *Huntington News* [Read more](#)

#### March 31 - Washington State proposes nuke cleanup deadlines

Frustrated by federal government delays, the state of Washington on Monday issued its own plan for cleaning up the nation's most contaminated nuclear weapons site.

Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee said his plan seeks to keep the clean-up of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation on schedule. *SFGate.com* [Read more](#)

#### March 31 - Environmentalists concerned Hudson River faces increasing threat of oil spills, report says

Tankers move as much as 25 million gallons down the river a week, traveling roughly 145 miles from Albany, N.Y. The ships then make their way to refineries in Canada and New Jersey.

At the current rate of shipments, more than one billion gallons of crude oil could travel along the Hudson in the next year. According to environmentalists, cities along the river are put at risk by this volume of shipments. They also say that the Hudson faces a larger threat if New York approves a permit to Global Partners that could allow a heavier form of crude to be shipped along the Hudson. *NJ.com* [Read more](#)

#### April 1 - The Deepwater Horizon Spill, Four Years On

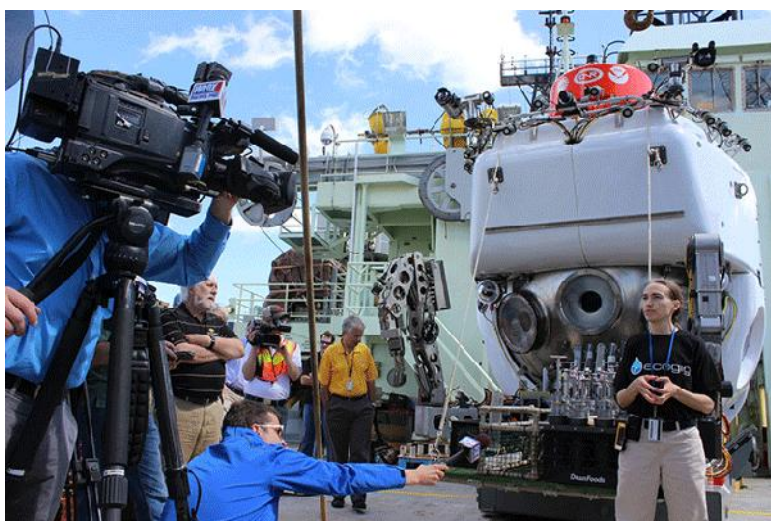


Photo: Dr. Samantha Joye in front of the Alvin aboard the Atlantis in Gulfport, Mississippi, March 29, 2014 © Antonia Juhasz

This week, for the first time since 2010, researchers will travel to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico to get a first-hand look at the site of the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster. In April 2010, a blowout at BP's Macondo oil well resulted in the deaths of eleven rig workers and the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history. To continue their study of the effects, researchers will travel as deep as 7,200 feet, more than one mile down, in the Human-Occupied Deep Submergence Vehicle Alvin, the same submarine that located a lost hydrogen bomb off the coast of Spain in 1966 and surveyed the wreckage of the Titanic in 1986. I will be the only journalist to participate in any of these dives (I'll do three) and to spend two weeks participating in this historic deep-sea research cruise. *Harpers* [Read more](#)

#### April 3 – Anadarko: "Huge cleanup bill": U.S. reaches record \$5.15B environmental settlement

The U.S. government on Thursday reached a \$5.15 billion settlement with Anadarko Petroleum Corp., the largest ever for environmental contamination, to settle claims related to the cleanup of thousands of sites tainted with hazardous chemicals for

## Other news reports from around the world (continued)

### NEWS REPORTS FROM USA (Continued)

decades. The bulk of the money - \$4.4 billion - will pay for environmental cleanup and be used to settle claims stemming from the legacy contamination. *CBS News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Don Johnstone of ISCO Industry Partner, DG & Hazmat Group]

#### April 4 - Houston Ship Channel Spill Exposes Risks in Busy Shipping Lane

The Ship Channel is home to the largest petrochemical complex in the U.S. On an average day last year there were 38 tankers, 22 freighters, one cruise ship, 345 tows, six public vessels, 297 ferries and 25 other transits, with 75 ships in port, Coast Guard data show.

The Coast Guard hasn't yet released an official cause. Channelview, Texas-based Kirby Inland Marine LP, the owner of Miss Susan, is responsible for the cleanup because its barge was the source of the oil that spilled. *gCaptain* [Read more](#)

#### April 4 – West Virginia: Agencies start different chemical leak health studies



*Photo: Dr. Letitia Tierney, state health officer and commissioner of the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health*

The **Department of Health and Human Resources**, working with the **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** and **WVU**, as well as the **Kanawha-Charleston Health Department** announced this week they're starting different surveys stemming from the Freedom Industries leak that [contaminated tap water for 300,000 West Virginia residents](#).

The state is conducting what's called a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response, or [CASPER](#), study. Representatives are going door-to-door asking randomly selected households about "public health concerns" during the spill, [according to a press release](#). *Charleston Daily Mail* [Read more](#)

### NEWS REPORTS FROM CANADA

#### April 2 - Kinder Morgan hearings scheduled for Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion



**The National Energy Board will begin to hold public hearings for Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion application this summer. (Kinder Morgan)**

The National Energy Board has scheduled public hearings on Kinder Morgan's [proposed expansion](#) of the Trans Mountain Pipeline system, which would triple its capacity to ship crude oil between Strathcona County, near Edmonton, and Burnaby, B.C.

The board will hear aboriginal traditional evidence in August and September. An oral hearing will begin next January.

- [Kinder Morgan files for Trans Mountain pipeline expansion](#)
- [Kinder Morgan hikes scale of Trans Mountain expansion](#)
- **MAP | [Canada's main pipeline network](#)**

*CBC News* [Read more](#)

ISCO Newsletter reader, Gerald Graham of World Ocean Consulting, has sent the following links for downloading NEB's Trans Mountain Expansion Project Hearing Order - Thanks, Gerald.

<https://docs.neb-one.gc.ca/11-eng/11isapi.dll?func=11&objId=2392873&objAction=browse&viewType=1>

OR <https://docs.neb-one.gc.ca/11-eng/11isapi.dll?func=11&objId=2445930&objAction=browse>

## NEWS REPORTS FROM CANADA (Continued)

### April 4 - U.S. EPA Restricted to Written Testimony in NEB Trans Mountain Case

The top U.S. environmental watchdog has won the right to observe and bark -- but not bite -- in the next contested Canadian pipeline approval case.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has obtained participant status from Canada's National Energy Board (NEB) for forthcoming hearings on Kinder Morgan Canada's planned additions to the Trans Mountain Pipeline across Alberta and British Columbia.

EPA's role will be limited. Under regulatory reforms enacted by the Conservative government in Ottawa, the U.S. agency's status in Canada will be confined to a supporting role called "commenter." *Natural Gas Intelligence* [Read more](#) [Thanks to Gerald Graham of World Ocean Consulting]

## NEWS REPORTS FROM UK

### April 4 - River Clyde foam investigated by environment agency



Photo: Elevated views show the length of the foam spread on the river

Experts are trying to establish why a large expanse of foam has appeared on the River Clyde in Glasgow.

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (Sepa) said it had received a number of calls.

It is believed that the foam is coming from an overflow pipe located near the Tradeston Bridge, known locally as the Squiggly Bridge.

The foam stretches from the Broomielaw in the city centre to the Clyde Arc, known locally as the Squinty Bridge. *BBC News* [Read more](#) [Thanks to ADR Training UK]

### April 5 - Britain is paying dearly for neglecting its nuclear waste

Swilling around murky ponds in the oldest part of Sellafield, a nuclear research and reprocessing centre in Cumbria, is a soupy, radioactive sludge. For years boffins working on Britain's first military and civil nuclear programmes abandoned spent fuel and other nastiness into the pools and tanks, which now grow decrepit. Though perhaps not the "slow-motion Chernobyl" which some environmental campaigners make out, the site is subject to one of the most complex nuclear clean-ups in the world.

Sellafield is the trickiest of several challenges facing the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), a government body that manages the contractors who swab out Britain's defunct facilities. *The Economist* [Read more](#)

## INDIA: WORKSHOP ON THE INTERNATIONAL LIABILITY AND COMPENSATION REGIME



March 25 - Following on from the IMO/SACEP workshop in Sri Lanka the week before, the Director and the Head of the External Relations and Conference Department travelled to Mumbai, India on the invitation of the Directorate General of Shipping, to deliver a one day workshop on the international oil pollution compensation regime.

This workshop, which took place on 1 March 2014, was aimed at raising awareness among the many stakeholders in India who could potentially be involved in and/or impacted by an oil spill from a tanker.

*IOPC Funds* [Read more](#)

## JAPAN ALLOWS PEOPLE TO RETURN TO FUKUSHIMA DISASTER 'HOT ZONE'

April 1 - For the first time since Japan's Fukushima nuclear disaster more than three years ago, residents of a small district 20 km (12 miles) from the wrecked plant are about to be allowed to return home.

## Other news reports from around the world (continued)

The Miyakoji area of Tamura, a northeastern city inland from the Fukushima nuclear station, has been off-limits for most residents since March 2011, when the government ordered evacuations after a devastating earthquake and tsunami triggered a triple meltdown at the power plant.

Tuesday's reopening of Miyakoji will mark a tiny step for Japan as it seeks to recover from the Fukushima disaster and a major milestone for the 357 registered residents of the district - most of whom the city hopes will go back. *Planet Ark* [Read more](#)

### **NIGERIA: BAYELSA EXPERIENCES 40 OIL SPILLS MONTHLY**

April 2 - The National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency, NOSDRA, has revealed that Bayelsa State, records about 40 spill cases in a month.

The Director General, Dr. Peter Idabor, who disclosed this also said that findings indicate that the rate of oil spill in Bayelsa is more devastating than that of the widely reported Ogoni land in Rivers State.

Though Bayelsa is one of the most endowed states in the federation, it nonetheless faces one of the worst environmental despoliation occasioned by oil exploration and exploitation activities. *AllAfrica.com* [Read more](#)

## People in the news

### **EURONAV CHIEF BECOMES CHAIRMAN OF ITOPF**



ITOPF is delighted to announce that Mr Paddy Rodgers, CEO of Euronav will become ITOPF's Chairman on 31st March, following Ms Hanne Sørensen's move to Damco.

Mr Rodgers has extensive experience in law and shipping and has been with the independent tanker owner, Euronav, for almost 20 years, the last 13 as its CEO. In this position, Mr Rodgers is responsible for ensuring that Euronav's modern fleet of FSOs, VLCCs, Suezmax vessels and a ULCC operate safely and with due regard to environmental protection.

Responding to his appointment, Mr Rodgers stated "it is an honour to accept this opportunity to be part of such an interesting and dynamic team. It is vital that the industry engages with ITOPF's work not just financially but also with active support."

*ITOPF* [Read more](#)

### **T&T SALVAGE PROMOTES NEW MANAGER, VESSEL SERVICES**

T&T Salvage, LLC announces that Mrs. Jessica Acosta has been promoted to Manager, Vessel Services.

Based in T&T's head office in the North Houston area, Acosta will be responsible for the daily management of the vessel services team of OPA 90 Compliance Specialists as well as interfacing with the compliance needs of T&T's ever-growing client base.

Acosta's talents extend beyond her unique ability to find effective compliance solutions and inject creativity into T&T's marketing efforts. Jessica's superb graphic design skills will continue to serve as T&T's branding and outreach mainstay.

"I have great confidence in Jessica's leadership abilities," said DeeAnn McMillen, Director, Vessel Services. "This new leadership appointment will allow us to deliver an even higher level of service to our worldwide OPA 90 - SMFF clientele." *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)



### **REMPEC: FAREWELL TO MS. SOUADE NASSERI**



Ms. Souade Nasseri, Junior Programme Officer Voluntary International Scientific (VIS) of the French Government – Seconded by the French Oil Company Total S.A. to REMPEC has concluded her support to the Centre last Friday 15 March 2014. Her secondment though the VIS programme has ended in November 2013, however thanks to the direct contribution of Total S.A, the Centre benefited from her support till last Friday.

REMPEC greatly appreciated her involvement and contribution to the work of the Centre in the field of preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships. *REMPEC* [Read more](#)

## ISCO WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

During the months of January and February 2014 ISCO has welcomed the following new members –

### New Corporate Members

**RS Aqua Ltd.** in Hampshire, UK. <http://www.rsaqua.co.uk/> RS Aqua Ltd. is specialised in the supply of a wide range of oceanographic equipment, including oil spill drifters and location beacons, to clients that include leading oil spill response organisations.

**Joint Marine Environ Guard Ltd.** in Lagos, Nigeria. <http://www.jmegl.com> Joint Marine Environ Guard Ltd. undertakes offshore marine environment monitoring, the collection of MARPOL waste and provides an offshore marine oil spill response capability from its vessel Jambon Explorer for the Nigerian Maritime EEZ.

### New Individual Members

**Mr Jamie Campbell** in Aberdeen, Scotland, UK. Jamie is Operations Manager at the Briggs Environmental Services Ltd. Response Base at Aberdeen.

**Mr Russell Kam Kong Shum** in Aberdeen, Scotland, UK. Russell is on the staff at Briggs Environmental Services Ltd. Response Base in Aberdeen

---

## NEW WEBSITE FOR ISCO'S INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON GROUP V (NON-BUOYANT) OILS

Work is progressing quickly on the creation of a new website for the Forum being held in Detroit, USA on 9-10 September 2014. The new website will provide information on the Forum Agenda, Exhibitor Information, Accommodation & Travel, etc. and will include a facility for Online Registration.

A further announcement will follow as soon as the Forum Website is up and running.

The International Forum on Group V (Non buoyant) Oils will provide an important opportunity for professionals from the international response community, private sector, government, and non-governmental organizations to come together to discuss and examine the challenges that come with increased production, storage and transportation of these type oils. The Response Community will present the latest in spill prevention, response and recovery techniques with the latest technologies available for sinking oils. This Forum is ideal for government agencies, contractors, researchers, industry, and other stakeholders to work together to meet the objective of insuring our respective communities that safe handling and best practices are being employed through the panel discussions, presentations, research and lessons learned from case studies from around the world.

---

## ISCO'S 2014 AGM TO BE HELD IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, USA DURING THE INTERNATIONAL OIL SPILL CONFERENCE

More details, including the exact time and location of the Meeting, will follow as soon as possible.

Notice of the AGM has been sent via email to all members – If not received please advise the Secretary immediately by email to [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

---

## APPEAL FOR FEEDBACK ON NEWSLETTER

From your Editor – The response to the appeal I made last week for feedback wasn't exactly overwhelming - only one reader has so far responded. This was disappointing as I had hoped for more.

Rob Service, Training Leader / National On-Scene Commander, Maritime New Zealand wrote "I note your request for feedback on the ISCO Newsletter in the latest edition and am happy to report that I find the Newsletter very good and easy to read. I like the way links are provided for those readers wanting more detail and I found the series you mentioned by Merv Fingas and Mark Francis of interest and value. There isn't really anything I can think of to improve what you are doing".

I am grateful to Rob for his kind words. At the same time I have to wonder whether others are equally happy with the Newsletter content and the way in which it is produced and circulated. The time and effort expended in research and production is considerable. There may be better ways to provide this service to our members and readers.

If you would like to respond to the request made in last week's Newsletter, send an email to [john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org](mailto:john.mcmurtrie@spillcontrol.org)

### NEW SENSORS TO DETECT OIL LEAKS



In western Norway, scientists are testing autonomous devices that can detect and understand what is happening underwater including the potential to detect oil leaks from pipes, reports the European Commission. Kyle Zhang, who is a researcher in wireless communication systems at the University of Twente in The Netherlands, explains what goes into each of the sensors:

"Inside the casing we have electronics for sensing and also for processing – that means we can do some local processing, if we want to detect a ship or a leakage of oil pipe. We can just do everything here, and it will send the signal to the control centre, the central station".

Gas bubbles may be a symptom of a failing pipeline. A sensor node recognizes the sound of bubbles and alerts the engineers to a possible leak.

The European research project named CLAM aims to build a functioning network for acoustic surveillance. Paul Havinga, CLAM co-ordinator and professor of computer science also at the University of Twente, explains: "We position underwater sensor devices – they go deep under the water and they monitor the environment, and if they see anything which is wrong they will communicate with each other, and then send an alarm if needed to the shore".

A number of specially developed sensor nodes are placed hundreds of metres down on the sea bed, at a distance from each other. Each unit is completely autonomous; they have an inbuilt battery, so there is no need for a power cable. This means deployment is far cheaper. The nodes 'talk' to each other using acoustic signals. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

## Products and Services

**Editor: The primary purpose of this Section in the ISCO Newsletter is to help Corporate Members of ISCO to share news about new products and services that they have recently developed. In the absence of such news, your editor may, from time to time, report on other products and services that he comes across and thinks may be of interest to our readers.**

### HYPERSPECTRAL SOFTWARE ANNOUNCED FOR AIRBORNE APPLICATIONS

April 4, 2014 — Headwall has released its new Hyperspec III application software featuring a powerful set of hyperspectral data acquisition management tools. The enhanced software suite represents an easy-to-use platform for controlling hyperspectral sensors across applications ranging from manned aircraft to UAV airborne remote sensing. The software is compatible with Headwall's award-winning Hyperspec® family of sensors, including lightweight Micro-Hyperspec®. The software is versatile, Windows- and Linux-based, and supports both USB and CameraLink interface.

"Efficient, flexible and powerful software is pushing the science of hyperspectral imaging forward at a very rapid rate," said Headwall CEO David Bannon. "Combining this new software platform with our patented, high-performance optics technology gives the spectral imaging community capabilities they've never had before."

An important benefit of Hyperspec III software is that it is multi-threaded and can control more than one sensor simultaneously. For example, machine-vision applications using multiple sensors are able to operate at peak efficiency with this highly efficient and elegant software platform. With sensor frame rates in excess of 400 FPS, Hyperspec III is designed for rapid collection and management of large volumes of incoming hyperspectral data. Hyperspec III software runs on Headwall's Hyperspec Data Processing Unit (HDPUs), which effortlessly captures and manages incoming image files for interpretation and post-processing.

With the exponential growth in the deployment of UAV platforms, the Hyperspec III software offers end-users a comprehensive and efficient user environment for quickly obtaining remote sensing data with Headwall's hyperspectral imagers.

Hyperspec III software is exceptionally versatile, allowing users to choose modules to suit specific needs. For example, airborne versions of the software provide GPS/INU integration and time stamping, ortho-rectification, precise calibration, and start/stop triggering of the sensor. This optimizes flight-path efficiency, which is a highly desired capability for the remote-sensing community. The Hyperspec III software also includes the ability to interface with Google maps to trigger sensor operation based on pre-defined GPS coordinates.

Pan-and-tilt and other motion-control features are built into Hyperspec III, yielding a virtually unlimited array of use-cases for hyperspectral imaging that range from ground to space. [Read more](#)





In this issue of the ISCO Newsletter we are printing No. 170 in a series of articles contributed by Dr Douglas Cormack.

Dr Douglas Cormack is an Honorary Fellow of ISCO. As the former Chief Scientist at the British Government's Marine Pollution Control Unit and head of the UK's first government agency, the Warren Spring Laboratory, Douglas is a well known and highly respected figure in the spill response community. He is the Chairman and a founder member of the [International Spill Accreditation Association](#)

### CHAPTER 170: THE NEW RESPONSE PLANS AND THEIR USES

This article now addresses onshore response, articles 166-169 having shown that the need to be reduced by the cargo/bunker transfer which limits releases from casualties to those of initial tank damage at most; by natural evaporation, dispersion or solution of such releases of oils/HNS as occur prior to stranding; by the residues being reduced by dispersant application and/or mechanical recovery prior to stranding; by these residual quantities being further reduced by natural post-stranding dispersion; and by all other HNS being reduced to zero by 100% evaporation or solution except for the readily identifiable few which solidify at ambient seawater temperatures.

Thus, with respect to onshore arrivals, the new contingency/incident-specific plan acknowledges that the first step is to identify the shoreline types likely to be impacted and the lengths and widths of such impactation from the predicted/monitored movement of slicks at sea and their time-dependent quantities and surface coverage (article 169); that the second step is to identify the techniques and equipment applicable to each shoreline type and to its contiguous inshore waters, all such equipment being stocked-piled either nationally or locally (c.f. articles 92-102); that the third is to activate transportation of the associated equipment in quantity and sequence appropriate to likely need; that the fourth is to identify and warn those who might wish to receive oils for heat-generating purposes or reluctantly accept emulsions for processing to oil or for biodegradation by land-farming, all such potential recipients having already been identified in the national or regional/local contingency plans at appropriate levels of detail (c.f. articles 92-102).

However, oils/HNS off-loaded from casualties by cargo/bunker transfer will also arrive onshore. Thus the new contingency plan acknowledges that crude oils must eventually go to refineries and bunkers to bunkering stations; and that HNS from parcel tankers, specialised containment, or individual packages within standard containers must go to their intended or alternate customers; and that while released oils recovered from water surfaces or from shorelines may be recycled for heat-generating combustion in a variety of industrial processes, HNS arriving onshore as release-residues or in leaking packages must be treated, collected, over-contained, recycled or disposed of as in industrial waste-chemical practice.

Thus, with this new contingency plan having been implemented and its procedures followed to create incident-specific plans as need arises, the recording of assessments made, actions taken, results obtained and costs incurred according to the format of the latter would facilitate the preparation of admissible compensation claims and their assessment by the IOPC Funds and P&I Club secretariats. Again, this recording would update the contingency plan with any new knowledge acquired at any incident and thus facilitate its dissemination through IMO. Yet again it is the intention of the International Spill Accreditation Association (ISAA) to accredit spill response contractors on the basis of their familiarity with this new contingency/incident-specific plan while recognising contractor obligation to comply with any un-rejected belief-only regulations as may perversely remain; and of ISCO/ISAA to make coastal state administrations and IOPCF and P&I Club secretariats aware of these initiatives.

However, while this new contingency/incident-specific plan is ubiquitously applicable to cargo/bunker transfer and to dispersant-use/mechanical-recovery at sea, its onshore aspects may be made location-specific with respect to geographical variation in shoreline type and tidal range. Thus, while UK shoreline type includes mud flat, salt-marsh, poorly and well-drained sand, shingle, pebble/cobble, rock and cliff, together with manmade coastal structures, all of which are exposed to substantial tidal ranges, shorelines elsewhere may be predominantly sand, mangrove or coral and may be non-tidal. Thus, for example, the Baltic, Mediterranean and Black Seas are non-tidal and thus cannot have widths of shoreline-coating whatever their type. Accordingly, non-tidal countries have little call for the range of the inshore and shoreline response equipment identified and evaluated in articles 92-102, and no tidal-dependence on the use of whatever dispersant or mechanical recovery equipment may best facilitate natural re-colonisation and/or re-growth as identified and evaluated in articles 47-61 and 70-91. Again, floating and land-fast ice may present few if any response needs or options.

Thus, while stockpiles of equipment for at sea dispersant-spraying and mechanical-recovery are intended to prevent stranding, the new contingency plan for non-tidal countries acknowledges a reduced need for shoreline cleaning-equipment while acknowledging the usual need for at-sea and inshore equipment. Again, for countries with limited ranges of shoreline type the new plan acknowledges a need to stockpile only a correspondingly limited range of equipment types. Yet again, with seawater concentrations being non-toxic whether natural or dispersant-induced, and with the physical coating of organisms being likewise incapable of producing species-extinction/ecological disaster, the new contingency plan acknowledges that the only choice with respect to dispersant-use and mechanical-recovery is for the most viscosity-tolerant options to be used in each case, this being even more so the lower the ambient temperature and thus the higher the viscosity.

1 *The Rational Trinity: Imagination, Belief and Knowledge*, D.Cormack, Bright Pen 2010 available at [www.authorsonline.co.uk](http://www.authorsonline.co.uk)

2 *Response to Oil and Chemical Marine Pollution*, D. Cormack, Applied Science Publishers, 1983.

3 *Response to Marine Oil Pollution - Review and Assessment*, Douglas Cormack, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1999.

### UK & IRELAND: ONLINE BOOKING OPEN FOR 2014 TRAINING DAYS EVENT



This event is being held in Spring 2014 (April 28-29) in the beautiful environment of Lough Erne at Castle Archdale Country Park near Enniskillen in Northern Ireland. It will be an enjoyable and sociable occasion combining training with an opportunity to network with others who share your interest in protecting our environment.



Course options include an Accredited MCA Level 2 Oil Spill Response Training Course, a Practical Oil Spill Response Exercise, and an Introductory Course on Contaminated Soil and Groundwater Remediation including a demonstration of exploratory well drilling.. Click [EVENT PROGRAMME](#) to view the full details and make your booking online at [http://isaa.org.uk/form/castle\\_archdale\\_booking\\_form\\_2014.html](http://isaa.org.uk/form/castle_archdale_booking_form_2014.html) Course fees are not expensive and early booking is recommended.

---

### USA: INTERNATIONAL OIL SPILL CONFERENCE – 5-8 MAY 2014 IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Begin and end your week at IOSC with special networking activities!

IOSC Golf Tournament - The IOSC 2014 Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, May 5 at Troon Golf - The Club at Savannah Harbor in historic Savannah, Georgia. The scramble tournament is limited to the first 144 registered players, so register early to secure your space! Tournament fees will include 18-holes of championship golf on Savannah's only PGA tour recognized course, air-conditioned golf cart with GPS system, lunch, prizes and fun for all.

Closing Dinner - Join us for an evening of dinner and dancing to celebrate the end of an exciting week! The optional Closing Dinner will be held on Thursday evening - so don't forget to register!

Other IOSC Highlights include:

- Keynote Speaker: Daniel Yergin, Pulitzer Prize-winning Author and Energy Expert.
- Over 200 technical paper and poster presentations.
- 12 available short courses.
- An exhibit hall with over 200 booths featuring new technology, equipment, and services from over a dozen countries.

For more details, visit: [www.iosc.org](http://www.iosc.org)

---

### AUSTRALIA: HAZMAT 2014 - NEW KEYNOTE SPEAKER & EXTENDED PROGRAM

The HazMat organising committee is pleased to announce the addition of keynote speaker Peter Wilkinson, Managing Director - Risk, Noetic Group to the 2014 program.

Peter brings a wealth of experience as an industry expert and will be the conference's opening speaker. His presentation will focus on Major Accident Prevention and explore how the technical aspects of an incident investigation do not always represent the whole picture.

Extended Program Now Available - The HazMat 2014 program and registration brochure has been updated and extended to include descriptions of each speaker's presentation. In addition, the brochure includes details on the pre-conference workshop, dinner function, keynote speakers, venue and inclusions. You can use the brochure to register your attendance along with an accommodation booking form should you need it. [Click here](#) to open the e-reader

---

### GREECE: POSIDONIA 2014: 2-6 JUNE, ATHENS, GREECE

Posidonia 2014 is the opportunity for all players in world shipping to meet and review challenges, opportunities, trends and innovations with the operators of more than 4,000 vessels approaching 260m tonnes carrying capacity – and increasing.

The popular 2012 programme of main conference sessions, focused workshops and seminars will be further developed at Posidonia 2014. Chaired by industry leaders, there will be lively discussion and debate on issues, challenges and opportunities facing the industry. [More info](#)

## Publications

### FOR YOUR INTEREST – LINKS FOR RECENT ISSUES OF PERIODICALS

<a href="#">ASME EED EHS Newsletter</a>	News and commentary on HSE issues from George Holliday	Most recent issue
<a href="#">Bow Wave</a>	Sam Ignarski's Ezine on Marine & Transport Matters	Current issue
<a href="#">Cedre Newsletter</a>	News from Cedre in Brittany, France	February 2014
<a href="#">The Essential Hazmat News</a>	Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals	March 18 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech Direct</a>	Remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater	April 1 issue
<a href="#">USA EPA Tech News &amp; Trends</a>	Contaminated site clean-up information	May 2013 issue
<a href="#">Technology Innovation News Survey</a>	From US EPA - Contaminated site decontamination	Feb 16-28 2014 issue
<a href="#">Intertanko Weekly News</a>	International news for the oil tanker community	No 14 2014
<a href="#">CROIERG Enews</a>	Canberra & Regions Oil Industry Emergency Response Group	April 2014 issue
<a href="#">IMO Publishing News</a>	New and forthcoming IMO publications	March 2014
<a href="#">IMO News Magazine</a>	News from the International Maritime Organization	No 4, 2013
<a href="#">Pollution Online Newsletter</a>	News for prevention & control professionals	April 2 issue
<a href="#">EMSA Newsletter</a>	News from the European Maritime Safety Agency	February 2014 issue
<a href="#">JOIFF "The Catalyst"</a>	Int'l Organisation for Industrial Hazard Management	January 2014 issue
<a href="#">Environmental Technology Online</a>	Environmental Monitoring, Testing & Analysis	March 28 2014 issue
<a href="#">OCIMF Newsletter</a>	News from the Oil Companies International Marine Forum	January 2014 issue
<a href="#">IPIECA eNews</a>	Int'l Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Assoc'n	February 2014 issue
<a href="#">WMU Newsletter</a>	From the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden	February 2014 issue

### IOPC FUNDS: NEW INCIDENT REPORT 2013 NOW AVAILABLE

The 2013 Report on incidents involving the IOPC Funds is now available to download from the [publications page](#). Hard copies of the Report are available on request via the [publications page](#). *IOPC Funds*

### ITOPF: NEW EDITION OF OCEAN ORBIT PUBLISHED

A new edition of ITOPF's newsletter, Ocean Orbit, has just been published. In this issue, we look at three very different incidents that occupied the technical team during 2013 and highlight other areas where we have been working with our Members and Associates. We provide an update on our activities in China and India, announce the launch of our new series of films on oil spill response and feature the latest recipients of the ITOPF R&D Award. Other topics covered include cargo liquefaction and response in the Arctic, as well as staff news.

Copies of the newsletter are available free from ITOPF (contact [Terry Goodchild](#)) or can be downloaded in PDF format from the [Publications](#) page of our website. *ITOPF*

### REMPEC: POSOW PROJECT - LAYMAN REPORT

Following the completion of the Project for Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline cleanup and Oiled Wildlife interventions – POSOW, the Layman report has been produced to summarize the concept of the project and to highlight its achievements:

- 4 Manuals; 11 posters and 14 presentations in 7 languages
- 252 Volunteers and professionals trained, in 9 regions of 8 Mediterranean countries
- 34 Trainers available in 14 regions of the 8 Mediterranean countries
- 276 Volunteers and Trainers in the POSOW Volunteers Database
- Around 4,500 visits of POSOW Website [www.posow.org](http://www.posow.org)

The report can be downloaded from [POSOW website](#), in the [Documentation/Reports section](#)

## Training

### EMERGENCY FILM GROUP: HAZARDOUS GASES INCIDENT TRAINING

The [Hazardous Gases Package](#) offers training for those who may respond to an incident involving dangerous gases - now offered at unprecedented savings! Four programs that explore the perils of a specific gas, and takes you up close as firefighters and other emergency personnel carry out procedures to mitigate incidents.

[More info](#)

## Contracts & Tenders

### USA: NATIONAL DEFENSE CENTER FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT: INDUSTRY DAY

Department of the Army, Army Contracting Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Federal Business Opportunities, FBO-4507, Solicitation W91ZLK14RNDCE, 2014

The Program Management Office for the National Defense Center for Energy and Environment (NDCEE) will host an Industry Day for parties interested in potential contracting opportunities in support of the NDCEE mission. The program's focus is on the demonstration and validation of DoD's high-priority environmental, safety, occupational health, and energy technologies. Topics include destruction of chemical and biological weapons; emerging contaminants; and remediation/cleanup/restoration of contaminated sites, among others. The Industry Day is scheduled for May 7, 2014, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, at Dickson Hall, Bldg 3074, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. The meeting will be unclassified and open to all interested contractors, large and small businesses, academia, and other government stakeholders. <https://www.fbo.gov/notices/5ace695d11e32764e1b51bf27b242ff6>  
Source: EPA Technology Innovation News Survey <http://www.clu-in.org/products/tins/>

## Business Opportunities

### USA: BAA RESEARCH ON OIL SPILL RESPONSE OPERATIONS ON THE U.S. OCS

Department of the Interior, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Herndon, VA; Federal Business Opportunities, FBO-4492, Solicitation E14PS00054, 2014

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement solicits white papers for specific areas of interest to the BSEE Oil Spill Response Research Program on Oil Spill Response Operations on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf. Among the eight specified topics is the need to develop a safe, low-emissions, in situ method to rapidly separate the oil and water recovered from a skimming system and utilize or burn off the recovered oil. White papers no more than 5 pages in length are due by 2:00 pm ET, April 10, 2014. If a white paper is selected for further evaluation, a technical and cost/business proposal will be requested from the submitting organization. <https://www.fbo.gov/notices/bbd5f9342f46b370c80afe4c3122cd9f> Source: EPA Technology Innovation News Survey <http://www.clu-in.org/products/tins/>

## Company news

### ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER BRIGGS MARINE LAUNCHES NEW DIVING DIVISION

One of the UK's leading marine contractors has continued its expansion of specialist services by launching a new in-house commercial diving division.

Briggs Marine has appointed Alistair Blue as Dive Superintendent to head up the new vision. Alistair, an ADC certified Air Diver, has a broad range of experience in the industry. Alistair says, "Briggs Diving Division offers our clients an invaluable and bespoke integrated solution. The move to bring diving in-house ensures our clients can be confident that safety, quality and environmental accreditations, synonymous with Briggs, are upheld throughout our projects."

As Briggs own and operate over 40 vessels, they are able to rapidly deploy a holistic diving package, with the ability to undertake air diving services throughout the UK.

As with all commercial diving companies safety and quality is paramount, and Briggs are full members of the ADC, registered contractors with the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and members of IMCA, they also hold accreditations for ISO 9001, OHSAS 18001 and ISO 14001. *The Maritime Executive* [Read more](#)

### ISCO CORPORATE MEMBER AQUA GUARD'S RBS TRITON™ OIL SKIMMING TECHNOLOGY

Aqua-Guard's RBS TRITON™ oil skimming technology was hailed as particularly effective by Western Canada Marine Response Corp. (WCMRC) for heavy oil recovery. Western Canadian Marine Response Corp. (WCMRC) recently assisted with the design and execution of a testing program that included a 10-day weathering test at a facility in Alberta. We tested two types of dilbit, as well as assessed the effectiveness of skimming equipment, dispersants and in-situ burning for these oils. The test was overseen by a number of government regulators, including Environment Canada.

"The results were very encouraging. Over the course of the 10-day test, both types of dilbit floated and were retrieved effectively with the skimming equipment. A brush skimmer designed and built by Aqua-Guard, based out of North Vancouver, was particularly effective." - Kevin Gardner is president and general manager of Western Canada Marine Response Corporation, which responds to fuel spills in the waters of Western Canada, including the B.C. coast. <http://www.aquaguard.com/>

Legal disclaimer: Whilst ISCO takes every care to ensure that information published in this Newsletter is accurate unintentional mistakes can occur. If an error is brought to our attention, a correction will be printed in the next issue of this Newsletter. Products and services featured in the ISCO Newsletter and/or the ISCO website, including the International Directory of Spill Response Supplies and Services, have not been tested, approved or endorsed by ISCO. Any claims made by suppliers of products or services are solely those of the suppliers and ISCO does not accept any liability for their accuracy. Subscription is subject to acceptance of ISCO's Terms and Conditions as published on the website [www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)